

Appl. No. 10/807,722

Amendment and Response to Office Action dated July 17, 2006

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OCT 17 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently Amended) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 10-~~or~~ 11, wherein the tube holding wall portion of the first separated body is formed in a flat shape which is orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube.
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Previously Presented) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 10, wherein the main body portion of the second separated body is formed by connecting the abutment portions to each other in an approximately linear shape so as to be approximately orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube.
5. (Currently Amended) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ an inner peripheral surface of the main body portion in the second separated body is formed in a circular curved surface connecting the pair of joint projections to each other.
- 6 - 9. (Cancelled).

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10. (Currently Amended) A header tank for a heat exchanger in which a plurality of flat tubes are communicated and connected to at least a pair of the header tanks so as to form multiple stages, the header tank comprising:

- a pipe having a first separated body and a second separated body; and
- a pair of closing members for closing opening portions in both ends of the pipe, wherein the first separated body includes

- a tube holding wall portion having insertion holes for holding the flat tubes and a pair of straight portions approximately parallel to one another, wherein the straight portions and the tube holding wall portion are formed in a C-shaped cross sectional shape, wherein the second separated body includes

- a main body portion closing an opening portion of the first separated body, abutment portions provided in both ends of the main body portion and abutted on leading end surfaces of the straight portions of the first separated body, and joint projections protruded from the main body portion and bonded to inner peripheral surfaces of leading end portions of the straight portions, wherein a width of the second separated body in a direction orthogonal to a longitudinal direction of the tube does not exceed a width of the first separated body in the direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube,

- and wherein the leading end portions of the straight portions are accommodated in a space defined by the joint projections and the abutment portions.

11. (Currently Amended) A header tank for a heat exchanger in which a plurality of flat tubes are communicated and connected to at least a pair of the header tanks so as to form multiple stages, the header tank comprising:

- a pipe having a first separated body and a second separated body; and
- a pair of closing members for closing opening portions in both ends of the pipe, wherein the first separated body includes

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a tube holding wall portion having insertion holes for holding the flat tubes and a pair of straight portions approximately parallel to one another, wherein the straight portions and the tube holding wall portion are formed in a C-shaped cross sectional shape, and wherein the second separated body includes

a main body portion closing an opening portion of the first separated body, abutment portions provided in both ends of the main body portion and abutted on leading end surfaces of the straight portions of the first separated body, and joint projections protruded from the main body portion and bonded to inner peripheral surfaces of leading end portions of the straight portions, wherein a width of the second separated body in a direction orthogonal to a longitudinal direction of the tube does not exceed a width of the first separated body measured across the straight portions of the first separated body in the direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube; and -

wherein each of the leading end surfaces of the straight portions of the first separated body does not exceed the main body portion of the second separated body in the longitudinal direction of the tube.

12. (Currently Amended) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 10 ~~or~~ 11, wherein the leading end portions of the straight portions are caulked into the space.

13. (Currently Amended) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 10 ~~or~~ 11, wherein at least base end portions of the joint projections in the second separated body are formed thicker than the straight portions of the first separated body along ~~the~~ a caulking direction.

14. (Previously Presented) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 11, wherein the main body portion of the second separated body is formed by connecting the abutment portions to each other in an approximately linear shape so as to be approximately orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube.

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15. (Previously Presented) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 14, wherein the inner peripheral surface of the main body portion in the second separated body is formed in a circular curved surface connecting the pair of joint projections to each other.

16. (New) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 11, wherein the tube holding wall portion of the first separated body is formed in a flat shape which is orthogonal to a longitudinal direction of the tube.

17. (New) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 11, wherein the leading end portions of the straight portions are caulked into a space.

18. (New) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 11, wherein at least base end portions of the joint projections in the second separated body are formed thicker than the straight portions of the first separated body along a caulking direction.

19. (New) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 11, wherein the main body portion of the second separated body has an approximately linear-shaped surface opposite to an inner peripheral surface of the main body portion, the approximately linear-shaped surface being substantially entirely a single flat face.

20. (New) A header tank for a heat exchanger according to claim 19, wherein the approximately linear-shaped surface and the inner peripheral surface of the main body portion, in combination, define a thickness of the main body portion in the direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube in such a manner that the main body portion is thicker toward each of the pair of the joint projections and thinner toward a center of the main body portion, and

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wherein the thickness of the main body portion is smallest in a center in the direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the tube.